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INTERESTING EXTRACTS FROM OLD NEWS-PAPERS.

CONTRIBUTED BY MR. GEORGE C. BROADHEAD OF COLUMBIA, MO.

The Boonslick Advertiser, published at Franklin, Missouri, of date April 27, 1819, states that "the Kickapoos had ceded all of their lands in Illinois, and for them had received a tract lying west of the proposed boundary of Missouri. The treaty was negotiated by Colonel Augustus Chouteau and Colonel Benjamin Stephenson."

The Boonslick Advertiser of February 12, 1831, informs us that Menominee chiefs had arrived at Washington for the purpose of settling the boundary question between themselves and the immigrant New York Indians, who had settled among them.

The Advertiser of June 25, 1831, speaks of a letter of General Gaines to Governor Reynolds, of date June 5, mentioning a conference with the Sac Indians, in which they disavowed any intention of hostility, but insisted that they had never sold the lands in dispute and would continue to occupy them. They were informed that they must move to the lands on the west side of the Mississippi, and the conference ended.

The next morning General Gaines learned that the Sacs had invited the Winnebagoes and Kickapoos to join them. General Gaines then called on Governor Reynolds for a battalion of mounted men. The Indians will be compelled to go west of the river, unless they move of their own accord.

[*Advertiser and Intelligencer*, August 20, 1831.]

A band of Sacs and Foxes in the night attacked the Menominees, who were collected at Prairie du Chien, and killed twenty-four of them. Ten wounded men escaped into houses of the citizens. Those killed were chiefly women and children.

[*Boonslick Advertiser*, May 26, 1832.]

Two hundred and seventy-five mounted men under Major Stillman were overpowered by hostile Indians on Sycamore creek, thirty miles from Dixon's Ferry. On 14 May, Stillman, meeting a party of Indians, attacked them, killing 2 and taking 2 as prisoners. He pursued them until he came up with another party carrying a red flag, who fled into a swamp, Major Stillman following. A large body arose. Maj. S. ordered a retreat; the Indians followed. Prior to this the Regulars and Militia had formed a junction at Rock Island and General Atkinson was invested with the command. A runner from Black Hawk, bearing news to the Missouri Indians of the defeat of the Militia, arrived at Des Moines 20 hours before the express sent by Governor Reynolds.

[*Boonslick Advertiser and Missouri Intelligencer*, June 2, 1832.]

A letter was received in St. Louis, stating that fifteen men, women and children were buried which the Indians had killed and mutilated the day before near Indian creek. Two young women were carried away by the Indians and their father and mother murdered. The massacre took place twenty-five miles from Hennepin and the Indians were divided into several parties, spreading desolation.

A letter, speaking of the Stillman defeat, states that out of thirty-two missing, all returned but thirteen. Eleven were found and buried. The dead were cut and mangled shockingly.

[*Missouri Intelligencer and Advertiser*, Columbia, Mo., July 29, 1834.]

The Misses Hall furnish the following account of their capture: On 20th May, 1832, a party of Indians came to our father's house early in the morning. Mr. Pedegrew, one of the neighbors, was there. The Indians shot him then began killing my father and mother and others of the

family that were at home. In the midst of this the Indians seized me, and two more my sister Rachael by the arm, and bore us off as fast as possible. As we passed out of the door we saw our mother sinking under the instrument of death. They compelled us to run on foot as fast as we were able to do, about a mile and a half, with thirty Indians following, to where their horses stood. There they awaited the arrival of those who had remained at the house to complete the murders. They caught and carried away several of my father's horses. After the others came up we were mounted on horseback. The others mounted their horses. We rode in great haste until about midnight. They then halted, dismounted and spread a blanket down, bidding us to sit on it. They then formed a circle around us. We rested about two hours. They then mounted their horses and rode as fast as we were able to go until ten o'clock in the morning, when they again dismounted and spread down their blankets and bid us to sit down on them. By this time we were fatigued almost to death, and faint with hunger. They scalded some beans and ate them heartily. They gave some to us, telling us to eat, but to eat raw beans was what we could not do. After they had satisfied themselves on the raw beans, they again mounted their horses, compelling us to mount ours.

The saddles were the common Indian saddles, just the tree with grained deer skin stretched over it, and the roughest going kind of horses. We thought that every day would be the last of us. We rode this day until about sundown, when they again halted. They here roasted a prairie chicken and gave us to eat. I suppose we remained there about an hour and a half. They mounted again and rode until about three hours in the night, when they met the main body under Black Hawk. We now fared a little better. When they found that we were prisoners they appeared to be much pleased and presented us with their best diet, consisting of the kernels of hazel nuts and sugar

mixed as a token of friendship. At the same time they gave us some tobacco and parched meal, making signs to us to burn it, which we did, out of obedience to them. They also, this night, suffered us to sleep together, which before they had refused. They staid until a late hour next morning. They prepared red and black paints and painted one side of our head and face red, the other black. Then eight or ten men took us by the hand and marched 'round their encampment several times. They then took us into the midst of the whole band of warriors, spread down some blankets and sat us down on them. Then they commenced dancing around us, singing and yelling in a most horrid manner. We here thought they intended to kill us. After they had danced until they were tired and quit jumping around us, two squaws came to us and took us by the hand and led us into one of their wigwams, where we staid undisturbed until they all could pack up and start, which they did in a very short time. We now all took up the line of march together and rode until about midnight, when we stopped. We were again separated and had not the satisfaction of sleeping together. Next morning, which was the fourth day of our captivity, they cleaned off a place fifteen or twenty feet around and stuck a pole down in the middle of it.

We were, as I stated before, again placed in the midst and they danced around us, still singing the war song. They staid here all day and next morning again took up the line of march and moved on until late in the evening, when they again cleaned off another place as before, and placing us in it, commenced dancing around us, making us kneel down and bow our faces on the earth. Here, once more from actions, we thought we were going to be killed; which we would almost as soon they would have done as not, for we were nearly exhausted with fatigue, on account of the long and forced marches that we had made. Next morning, which was the sixth day of our captivity, we

were again mounted on our horses and marched until in the afternoon, when they again stopped and went through the same wretched and disagreeable ceremony of clearing off a place and dancing around while the squaws and young ones were generally engaged, when we stopped, in gathering roots, which was our principal diet.

When the Indians killed my father and mother and others, they took what coffee there was in the house, parched it and made it in the same manner that white people do. We frequently got some of it to drink while it lasted. On the next day four Winnebagoes came to where we were encamped. Here a long council was held with the principal war chiefs or head men of the nation. After the talk was over, one of the Sacs came and took me by the hand and led me up to where the Winnebagoes were seated, and where they had been for some time in council. The four Winnebagoes then all arose and shook me by the hand. Then one of them made signs for me to sit down by him, which I did. He then told me by signs that I belonged to him and gave me to understand, in the same way, that I must go along with him. I then asked him if they were not going to let my sister go with me, which he understood. I now discovered that I had been purchased, but Rachel had not. The Indians who had purchased me again renewed their talk with the Sacs and Foxes. Here another council was held and much warmth appeared to be exhibited on both sides. I thought several times that they would not succeed in getting my sister. But at the close of the talk they came to where I was, leading Rachel by the hand, and sat her down by me. This was in the evening, about an hour by sun. A number of the Sac and Fox Indians now came and shook us by the hand and bid us goodbye.

We then started and rode until about an hour in the night as fast as our horses were able to run, when we came to where the squaws were encamped. We staid here all night. Next morning we went up the Wisconsin river

in canoes, and rowed on until about an hour by sun in the evening. They then stopped and lay by that night and all of the next day and until ten or eleven o'clock of the third day, when twenty-four of the Winnebagoes started with us towards the settlements in Illinois; for, I suppose, they had taken us a great ways into Michigan territory. On this night we came to another Indian encampment. We were permitted once more to taste food that we could eat a little of. They had pickled pork and Irish potatoes cooked up together. Our appetites could taste this food, although we were greatly distressed in mind. Next day they traveled until nearly night, when they chanced to kill a deer. They cooked and devoured it in a few minutes, but they gave us what we could eat of it. They had a little salt, which they gave us to salt our part of the deer.

On this evening we got to the Blue Mounds, in the mining country. There was here a small fort and a few families. It was an outside place of the inhabited part, and on the north side of the mining country, about fifty miles north of the south line of Michigan territory. Next morning we started to Gratiot's cove, as it was called, in company with two or three soldiers and the same twenty-four Winnebago Indians.

In five or six miles we met Henry Gratiot, Indian agent, coming to meet us. We then understood that he and General Dodge had employed the Indians, that came after us, to do so. I understood that General Dodge and Gratiot had given them (the Winnebagoes) two thousand dollars, paid in forty horses, wampum and other trinkets, to purchase us of the Sacs and Foxes.

We, on this night, reached the White Oak Grove, in the settlement of the miners. Next day we reached Mr. Henry Gratiot's. We remained in the neighborhood at a small fort, at what was called the White Oak Springs, about two weeks. We then went to Galena, where we remained about one week.